

4210 East 11th Avenue Denver, Colorado 80220-3716 Phone (303) 320-8333 Telefax Numbers: Main Building/Denver (303) 322-9076

Ptarmigan Place/Denver (303) 320-1529

First National Bank Building/Denver (303) 355-6559

Grand Junction Office (303) 248-7198

Pueblo Office (719) 543-8441 ROY ROMER Governor

JOEL KOHN Interim Executive Direct

November 25, 1991

Mr. Martin Hestmark
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region VIII
999 18th Street, Suite 500, 8WM-C
Denver, Colorado 80202-2405

RE: Phase I RFI/RI Workplan for OU 5 - Woman Creek

Dear Mr. Hestmark,

The Colorado Department of Health, Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Division (the Division), has received a request from DOE (91-DOE-10036) to extend the submittal date for the revised Phase I RFI/RI Workplan for OU 5 (Woman Creek). The new date being proposed by DOE for submission of this document is December 9, 1991 and represents an eight day delay from the originally scheduled date of December 1, 1991. The Division recommends that this delay be granted.

This recommendation by the Division to grant an extension is based on the improved working relationship that has been established in recent weeks with new DOE personnel associated with this project. We look forward to continuing work on this OU under the improved conditions. However, the Division would like to emphasize that DOE allowed six weeks to pass between our rejection of the workplan and any communication from them. These six weeks seem inordinately long for the "changes in project management" that DOE claims. Nevertheless, this left only three weeks to resolve and clarify the Division's problems with the original document and get a new document prepared by the December 1, 1991 deadline, which effectually guaranteed that DOE would need an extension. This situation arose because DOE failed to plan ahead or set priorities correctly. In the future, the Division will look very unfavorably on this type of request.

If you have any questions regarding these matters, please call Joe Schieffelin of my staff at 331-4421.

Sincerely,

Gary W. Baughman

Unit Leader, Hazardous Waste Facilities

Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Division

cc: Frazer Lockhart, DOE
Jen Pepe, DOE
Paul Bunge, EG&G
Tom Ottensman, EG&G
Barbara Barry, RFPU